

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HELSIN 00596 280914Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 AID-05 HA-05
CU-06 /148 W

-----060355 281154Z /23

R 271445Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2427
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL CAPETOWN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS HELSINKI 0596

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY
EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, PDEV, WA, FI
SUBJECT: SWAPO LEADER VISITS FINLAND

REF: STOCKHOLM 0731

1. DURING HIS FEBRUARY 22-23 VISIT TO FINLAND SWAPO
PRESIDENT SAM NUJOMA MET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER VAYRYNEN
AND OTHER FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS AND OUTLINED SWAPO'S
POSITION ON A NAMIBIA SETTLEMENT TO THE FINNISH PRESS.
FINNISH NEWS MEDIA GAVE ONLY MODERATE PUBLICITY TO HIS
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COMMENTS, WHICH DID NOT APPEAR TO COVER ANY NEW GROUND.
HE MENTIONED THAT SWAPO IS READY FOR A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT
AND WOULD NOT INSIST ON A COMPLETE MILITARY WITHDRAWAL
BY SOUTH AFRICA PRIOR TO ELECTIONS BUT REMARKED THAT
TALKS ARE ONLY IN ADDITION TO THE ARMED STRUGGLE AGAINST
COLONIALISM, NEO-COLONIALISM AND EXPLOITATION. HE
REJECTED A BANTUSTAN RESOLUTION OF THE NAMIBIAN QUESTION

AND SAID SWAPO WANTS TO LIBERATE THE WHOLE OF NAMIBIA,
INCLUDING THE MILITARY BASE AT WALVIS BAY.

2. NUJOMA STRESSED THE NEED FOR HUMANITARIAN AID AND
HOPED MORE WILL BE FORTHCOMING FROM FINLAND. IN THIS
CONNECTION, COMMUNIST KANSAN UUTISET NOTED THAT FINLAND
HAS AIDED SWAPO SINCE 1973 WITH HUMANITARIAN AID AND
SCHOLARSHIPS, WITH 21 NAMIBIAN STUDENTS PRESENTLY IN
FINLAND. THE PAPER REPORTED THAT THE INTENTION IS TO
MAKE INDEPENDENT NAMIBIA A MAJOR RECIPIENT OF FINNISH AID.

3. THE FOREIGN MINISTRY ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT
ON FEBRUARY 23 IN CONNECTION WITH THE VISIT: QUOTE FINLAND,
LIKE THE OTHER NORDIC COUNTRIES, SUPPORTS A SOLUTION OF
THE NAMIBIAN QUESTION THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE
FRAMEWORK OF THE UN AND IT SUPPORTS IN THIS SENSE THE
PRESENT NEGOTIATIONS WHICH HAVE AS THEIR OBJECTIVE THAT
THE COUNTRY WOULD RECEIVE ITS INDEPENDENCE IN 1978 IN
ACCORDANCE WITH THE RESOLUTION OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL.

QUOTE SWAPO'S PARTICIPATION IS DECISIVE IN ORDER TO
ENABLE A TRANSITION TO MAJORITY RULE IN NAMIBIA PEACE-
FULLY. FINLAND AND THE OTHER NORDIC COUNTRIES HAVE
EXPRESSED THEIR READINESS TO OFFER THEIR SERVICES WITHIN
THE FRAMEWORK OF THE UN IN ORDER TO FACILITATE A PEACE-
FUL TRANSITION. FINLAND HAS FOR ITS OWN PART ANNOUNCED
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ITS READINESS TO PARTICIPATE IN A POSSIBLE PEACE-
KEEPING OPERATION OF THE UN IN NAMIBIA.

QUOTE FINLAND GREETED WITH SATISFACTION THE SECURITY
COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION ON THE APPLICATION OF AN OBLIGATORY
BAN ON EXPORTS OF ARMS TO THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA,
AND IT CONSIDERS IT IMPORTANT THAT THE INTERNATIONAL
COMMUNITY INCREASE SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA. UNQUOTE.
RIDGWAY

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